



FEMA

Public Notice of Availability

**Draft Environmental Assessment for the
City of Newport News, Virginia Fire Department
Construction of New Fire Station #3**

Firefighters Fire Station Construction Grant Project

Interested parties are hereby notified that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has prepared a Draft Environmental Assessment for construction of New Fire Station and Apparatus Maintenance Facility to be located at 10454 Jefferson Avenue.

The City of Newport News, Virginia Fire Department has applied for FEMA's Firefighters Fire Station Construction Grant funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-5). FEMA provides financial assistance under this program for building a new or modifying an existing fire station in order to enhance the fire departments response capability and protect the communities they serve from fire and fire-related hazards.

FEMA proposes to assist the City of Newport News, Virginia Fire Department in the construction of 15, 882 square foot fire station consisting of 10,034 square feet of living space and 5,848 square feet of apparatus and storage space. The new fire station will be located at 10454 Jefferson Avenue approximately 0.9 miles north of the existing fire station, which was built in 1937 and is inadequate to serve the current community needs.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, Executive Order 11988, Executive Order 11990, and the implementing regulations of FEMA, an Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared to assess the potential impacts of the Proposed Action on the human and natural environment. This notice serves as an invitation for public comment on the proposed action and its potential effects on historic properties.

The Draft EA summarizes the purpose and need, alternatives, affected environmental, and potential environmental consequences for the proposed action. The Draft EA is available for comment and can be viewed and downloaded from FEMA's website at <http://www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments/ea-region3.shtm> or viewed at the following locations:

- Main Street Library 110 Main Street Newport news, VA
- Newport News Fire Department 2400 Washington Avenue Newport News, VA

The comment period will end 15 days from the initial notice publication date May 8, 2010. Written comments on the Draft EA can be mailed, emailed, or faxed to the contact below. If no substantive comments are received, the Draft EA will become final and a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will be issued for the project. Substantive comments will be addressed as appropriate in the final documents.

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